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SECRETARY OF THE SENATE  
APR 17 2017

# COVER SHEET FOR AMENDMENT OF POST-TRAVEL SUBMISSION

**Instructions:** Use this form as a cover sheet for any paperwork you may need to submit to the Office of Public Records in order to make your Privately Sponsored Post-Travel Submission complete in accordance with Rule 35. Only complete this form if you need to submit an amendment to a post-travel filing you have already submitted.

SUBMIT DIRECTLY TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS IN 232 HART BUILDING

Name of Traveler: Fern Tolley Gibbons

Employing Office/Committee: Commerce

Private Sponsor(s) (List all): AMS

Travel Date(s): January 22-24, 2017

Description/Title of Attached Forms: Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form (PSTCF)

Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission): Post-travel submission is incomplete. Required copy of the PSTCF was not submitted to OPR.

X 4/24/17  
(Date)

X [Signature]  
(Signature of Traveler)

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## PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): American Meteorological Society
2. Description of the trip: To speak on a panel, "Forecasting the Next Four Years: Priorities of the Next Administration and Congress," at the AMS Annual Meeting
3. Dates of travel: 1/22/17 - 1/24/17
4. Place of travel: Seattle, WA
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Fern Gibbons
6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:
  - ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
  - OR -
  - ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
  - AND -
  - ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I *certify* that:
  - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
  - AND -
  - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

**9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

**USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 4(b)**  
**I certify that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:**

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

- OR -

- ☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

**10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

**USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION (3)**  
**If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:**

[illegible]

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

- 12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:**

**American Meteorological Society organizes the Annual Meeting, convenes the panel, and organizes the participants' travel**

- 13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:**

The American Meteorological Society is a scientific and professional society focused on the atmospheric, hydrologic, oceanic, and related sciences. The Annual Meeting is the biggest conference hosted by AMS and the panel will address policy issues as they relate to the weather, water, and climate community

- 14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:**

AMS occasionally invites Congressional Members and staff to speak at events in order to share their expertise on the policy dimensions of weather, water, and climate

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

AMS maintains an Education Program that produces textbooks and resources for teachers and students of atmospheric, hydrologic, and oceanic sciences. AMS also has an educational/information Hill briefing series.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	\$738.20	\$195.05	\$148	\$685 registration fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts				

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

The event is arranged and organized without regard to congressional participation

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The AMS Annual Meeting rotates locations every year, and Seattle, WA was next on the schedule

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Grand Hyatt, 721 Pine St.

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Proximity to event venue. Room blocks contracted for AMS meeting attendees.



21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

AMS uses the federal per diem rate for meals. Lodging expenses are \$195/night, compared to the federal per diem of \$167/night. This event required AMS to book a large block of rooms in a contract with the hotel and this was the lowest reasonable rate available.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Coach/economy airfare, and ground transportation to/from airport

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

NA

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (You must include the completed signature block below for each travel sponsor.):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: 

Name and Title: Ya'el Seid-Green, Policy Program Associate

Name of Organization: American Meteorological Society

Address: 1200 New York Ave. NW, Suite 450, Washington DC 20017

Telephone Number: 202-355-9821

Fax Number: 202-737-9050

E-mail Address: yseldgreen@ametsoc.org



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December 16, 2016

Dr. Fern Gibbons  
Professional Staff  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Dear Fern:

On behalf of the American Meteorological Society Policy Program, it is my pleasure to invite you to speak on a panel at the AMS Annual Meeting on **Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** in Seattle.

Co-hosted by the American Meteorological Society Policy Program and the American Institute of Physics, the panel is titled "Forecasting the Next Four Years: Priorities of the Next Administration and Congress." The panel will feature policy leaders in the private, public, and academic sectors with insight into the presidential and congressional transitions underway. The panel will explore what the transitions may hold in store for the weather, water and climate community.

You will likely be on a panel with three other speakers. We ask each speaker to share a brief set of remarks, 10-15 minutes, and then engage in dialogue with the audience members. The panel will begin at 4:00pm and run for an hour. If you are able to accept outside funding, we are happy to provide funding for all standard travel expenses.

The AMS Annual Meeting is the biggest conference hosted by the American Meteorological Society, with approximately 4,000 attendees from the weather, climate, space, and water communities. This year's theme is "Observations Lead the Way." The meeting will take place at the Washington State Convention Center.

Additional information about the AMS Annual Meeting is available at:  
<http://annual.ametsoc.org/2017/>

I very much hope you can accommodate this event in your busy schedule. Your participation would add an incredibly valuable perspective to the panel. Please feel free to reach out with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Ya'el Seid-Green  
Policy Program Associate  
American Meteorological Society

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